



“At the federation of Beckwithshaw, Kettlesing Felliscliffe and Ripley Endowed CE Primary schools we aim to provide an environment of mutual respect and love where all children flourish and who grow together, guided by love.”

KS2 SATs – Parent Guide 2023

What are SATs?

At the end of Y6, English school children sit national tests in Reading, Maths and Spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPAG). These tests are both set and marked externally, and the results are used to measure the school’s performance (for example, through reporting to Ofsted and published league tables). Your child’s marks will be used in conjunction with teacher assessment to give a broader picture of their attainment.

KS2 Reading

The reading test is a single paper with questions based on three passages of text. Your child will have an hour, including reading time, to complete the test. There will be a selection of question types, including:

- Ranking/ordering, for example, ‘Number the events below to show the order in which they happen in the story’
- Find and copy, e.g. ‘Find and copy a word that suggests what the weather is like in the story’
- Short constructed response, for example: ‘What does the bear eat?’

KS2 grammar, spelling and punctuation

The SPAG test consists of two parts: a grammar and punctuation paper requiring short answers, lasting 45 minutes, and an aural spelling test of 20 words, lasting around 15 minutes. The grammar and punctuation test includes two sub-types of questions:

- Selected response, e.g. ‘Identify the adjectives’
- Constructed response, e.g. ‘Correct/complete/rewrite the sentence below,’ or, ‘The sentence below has an apostrophe missing. Explain why it needs an apostrophe.’



KS2 Maths

Children sit three papers in maths: Paper 1 (arithmetic, 30 minutes), Papers 2 and 3 (reasoning, 40 minutes each). Paper 1 consists of fixed response questions (children have to give correct answers to calculations). Papers 2 and 3 involve question types including multiple choice.

KS2 Science

Ministers have decided not to undertake any further science sampling tests at KS2 from September 2022 onwards. Schools will still submit teacher assessment data at both KS1 and KS2.

Do all children have to take SATs?

In England, the tests for all seven year olds (KS1 SATs in Y2) will be non-compulsory from September 2023 onwards, but will remain compulsory for 11 year olds (KS2 SATs in Y6).

How are SATs marked?

Instead of national curriculum levels, children are given scaled scores and details of whether they've reached the expected standard ('NS' means that the expected standard was not achieved; 'AS' means it was). The scaled scores for the KS2 test range between 80 (the lowest possible scaled score) and 120 (the highest possible scaled score). The expected standard for each test is a scaled score of 100 or more. The Department for Education expects at least 65 per cent of Y6 children to reach the expected standard.

KS2 SATs Timetable

Tuesday 9 May 2023 English grammar, punctuation and spelling Paper 1: questions and Paper 2: spelling

Wednesday 10 May 2023 English reading

Thursday 11 May 2023 Mathematics Paper 1: arithmetic and Paper 2: reasoning

Friday 12 May 2023 Mathematics Paper 3: reasoning